

## Sea Trial Information Management System (STIMS) Process Business Rules

1. Initiative originator enters data in STIMS. The STIMS Status reads "Submitted to Pillar Coordinator". As part of the pillar coordinator review, initiatives are evaluated to determine if the developer intends to perform spiral development of objective capabilities. If the initiative developer plans on employing a spiral development model, the pillar coordinator will work with the initiative developer to document the initiatives in STIMS. In general, each successive spiral (child) will be documented with a new initiative (and new STIMS ID) to facilitate tracking in the SEA TRIAL process and ensure OA concurrence with each successive spiral's experimental direction. Child initiatives will be linked to previous SEA TRIAL Events and their respective "parent" initiatives. STIMS will automatically transfer all relevant information from parent to child initiative.

- a. NWDC will assist the initiative originator as required, and will verify that STIMS inputs are complete enough for action by the Operational Agent (OA). NWDC will change the STIMS Status to "Under Pillar Coordinator Review".
- b. If the initiative is inadequate for action/adjudication, NWDC will change the STIMS Status to read "In Preparation" and will continue to work with the initiative originator for further development and completeness.
- c. Once NWDC determines that an initiative is ready for review and adjudication by the OA, NWDC will notify the appropriate OA and change status to "under OA review".
- d. The OA will review the initiative and/or assign it to the appropriate FCT(s) for review based on the following Sea Trial validation criteria identified in SEA TRIAL Instruction (CFFCINST 3900.1 series):
  - Technical feasibility of the initiative
  - Does the initiative address Fleet Priorities and/or Capability Gaps
  - Is the initiative consistent with the Concept Development and Experimentation (CD&E) plan
  - What experimental venue (e.g. workshop, wargame limited objective experiment, etc) is most appropriate for the initiative. The OA will also notify the pillar coordinator to change the status as appropriate.

2. If FCT review is used, the FCT lead (on behalf of the collaborative team) will review and provide their input/recommendations. The STIMS comments section is available for documenting FCT review comments. FCT Subject Matter Experts (SME's) review initiatives based on their area of expertise and the validation criteria identified in 1.d.(above)

3. After reviewing the initiative and team feedback, the FCT lead formulates a negative or positive endorsement on behalf of the FCT, forwards it to the OA, and notifies the pillar coordinator/OA to change status to "FCT endorsement to OA".

4. The OA adjudicates the initiative and changes, or notifies the pillar coordinator to change, the initiative status to "approved", "pending (requires further development)", or "Rejected". (Goal is for this process to be completed within 10 working days.)

5. For rejected initiatives, appropriate OA informs the initiative submitter and updates STIMS within 2 workdays. The OA's rationale for rejecting an initiative is entered in STIMS in the comment section.

6. After initiative approval, the OA will task the initiative originator/sponsor to create appropriate documentation, (e.g., Experimentation Plan) with the assistance of NWDC and the FCT. Not all initiatives require the same documentation. The level of documentation will be dictated by the scope of the capabilities under experimentation and their impact to fleet operations and will be approved by the OA. The Experimentation Plan will be created in accordance with the NWDC Experiment Planning Guidance, and attached to the initiative in STIMS. The Experimentation plan will consists of:

- a. Identification of an experimentation director, an experiment support team, and an analysis team.

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- b. A refined hypothesis (or other similar statement) that clearly denotes the purpose of the experiment and the overarching experiment objectives/sub-objectives.
- c. A robust data collection and analysis plan (DCAP) (which has been worked with the initiative author and experimentation director) is developed that addresses stated experiment objectives.
- d. A plan of action and milestone (POA&M) that shows expected dates associated with the experiment.
- e. A review and statement of available funding for the initiative which identifies the adequacy of funding to support achieving the experimental objectives. When CD&E initiatives do not have adequate funding, prepare a justification package for OA and STESG approval to obtain necessary resources.
  - Appropriate NWDC pillar coordinator will staff the justification package as directed by the ST instruction

7. Initiatives approved by the OA can then be updated in STIMS as SEA TRIAL candidate initiatives for consideration during SEA TRIAL EXPLAN development. When initiatives are statused as SEA TRIAL candidates, STIMS will require linkage to a STIMS event and additional funding information. Initiatives in need of SEA TRIAL resources must detail their requirements in STIMS "Financial Details" section before they can be considered for inclusion in the EXPLAN. This additional data is necessary for evaluating SEA TRIAL EXPLAN candidate initiatives during OA planning and prioritization efforts and NWDC led Synthesis/Decision Support (SDS) Cell meetings.

8. While the OA will assist in coordinating approved and funded Sea Trial EXPLAN initiative(s), it is the experiment director's responsibility to execute the initiative(s). Once approved, any modifications to the experimentation plan (event change, date change, DCAP modification, etc.) will be briefed to the OA. The OA will then make a determination as to whether or not the initiative will continue and will forward their determination to the SDS Cell.

9. Once a SEA TRIAL Event is completed, the experiment director will develop a quick look report to be staffed through the OA for publishing. The quick look report will also be forwarded to the SDS Cell. The SDS Cell will review the quick look report and other experimentation/analysis data to determine if a Military Utility Assessment (MUA) is necessary. The SEA TRIAL experiment director/sponsor is also responsible for completing the analysis report that evaluates/analyzes the measures of performance and measures of effectiveness data collected for the experiment. The quick look should be completed within 10 days of the SEA TRIAL Event's conclusion. The analysis report should normally be completed within 60 days of event completion. Both reports will be posted to STIMS immediately after release.

10. For SEA TRIAL EXPLAN initiatives that will undergo a MUA, the SDS cell will coordinate with the applicable OA to establish a MUA team. The MUA should be concluded within 30 days of establishing the MUA team. The MUA team will develop Doctrine, Organization, Training, Material, Logistics, Personnel, Facilities (DOTMLPF) recommendations (per the STESG approved MUA format) regarding the experimental capabilities and the need for future experimentation activities. When complete, the MUA Team will forward its assessment to the SDS cell for review and approval. NWDC will ensure the MUA report gets posted to STIMS.

11. The SDS cell will review the MUA as an honest broker based on whether or not the results answered the hypothesis (or other similar statement) presented in the OA approved Experiment Plan. Based on the review, the SDS cell lead will make a final determination on the capability, notify the sponsor and then brief the STESG at the earliest opportunity. The STESG will rate each completed MUA in one of the following categories:

- a. Significantly enhances warfighting capability
- b. Positive Enhanced warfighting capability
- c. Not mature enough/requires further examination

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- d. Provides no impact to warfighting capability

Per the Sea Trial Instruction, initiatives (other than doctrine) evaluated as significantly or positively enhancing warfighting capability will be presented to CFFC for delivery to OPNAV. Doctrine that significantly or positively enhances warfighter capability is passed from CFFC to NWDC directly. Initiatives not mature enough/require further testing will be rescheduled for additional experimentation and re-roll to step 3 above. Finally, initiatives that provide no impact to warfighter capability will be closed out.